

CALLERS WAIT PETULANT NOD OF MUSSOLINI

"Man of People" Exhibits a
Tolerant Contempt for All
Classes of His Callers

STATESMEN WAIT ON HIM

Lincoln Steffens Draws Pen
Picture of Interview With
Gathering of Correspondents

By LINCOLN STEFFENS.
LAUSANNE, Dec. 15.—Benito
Mussolini walked out of his room
into the corridor of his hotel at
Lausanne and, at sight of the wait-
ing crowd, halted, frowned, smiled.
His secretary pointed down the hall
to some Italian peasant women
holding flowers for him.

"MAN OF THE PEOPLES."
He shook his shoulders petulantly,
shot his sharp eyes slowly around
the circle of men: Reporters, pho-
tographers, detectives, guards and
diplomatic messengers, and then
again at the women with the flowers.
He didn't want to see them, but
several aides urged him, whispering
and he threw up his hands, marched
swiftly down to the women and
stood there before them, feet apart,
silent.

The women started. It was "he."
They did not know what to say, and
he did not help them; not a word.
He just stood there and stared at
them with his keen, black and white
eyes, till one of the girls offered
him her flowers. Then he turned,
glanced his hand to them to follow
and walked fast back into his room.
And the crowd waited.

But the peasant committee came
out at last, and after them "the man
of the people."

SMILES CONTEMPT.
Mussolini held a little book in his
hands, a tiny book of luxe, the size
of a prayer book. He stood there,
and lifting the book to the level of
his eyes, he read it, or pretended to.
He glanced over the book at the
waiting crowd and smiled his con-
tempt.

He says he is the son of a village
blacksmith, that he has been de-
spised but he played a game and
won. He is a man of power, and he
is easy to do. And having won, he
is now respected. So he enjoys his
triumph. He says so, he lets you
see it is so, and so it is his turn to
despise and insult. And men take it.
See? See how they wait respectful,
and with their hands and his
suspiciously, while he pretends to read
a book at leisure; taking his time,
torturing their impatience.

STATESMEN WAIT.

And there were statesmen in that
crowd now, and correspondents of
great newspapers, as he knows well.
He has seen their cards. And yet
men ask whether a dictatorship is
possible in this day and age? Pos-
sible? It is easy, it is easier than
any other way to take and use
power; it is safe and people like it.

"What we need is a dictator."
But the secretaries were whisper-
ing, so Mussolini slowly closes his
book, once more reviews with his
stiletto eyes his respectful enemies,
and quickly starts off for the eleva-
tor. Decision. The bunk over
he goes swiftly to the dead. But the
elevator has no respect for dicta-
tors, it was not there.

The servants rang, anxiously,
nervously. The elevator lifted up,
but slowly. So Mussolini lifted his
book and read. He read till the lift
came up, stopped, and then, still
reading, he walked out on the floor
below and around to where the pho-
tographers stood ringed and ready.
He dropped his book to look at them,
then resumed his reading, holding
the book in both hands on a level
with his eyes.

I had wanted a lone interview to
see if I couldn't find out what his
plans are, what remains of his
former radicalism, what he intends
to do with the power he has seized
in bolshevik fashion. I gave that
up now and warned the other cor-
respondents that we were to be re-
viewed. I would merely watch the
man and see what could be seen
from the outside. I saw some things.

STARES AT GROUP.

Beckoned by the secretary, we
trailed in and the dictator stood in
his befloored room, his feet apart,
like Napoleon, his sharp eyes picking
us up one by one. He stares and he
stares. He stood till we all were in
and for a long embarrassing moment
more, then he started forward to the
first man in line, Colonel Rollin, the
correspondent of the French govern-
ment organ, Le Temps, a man just
back from Russia, whence he wrote
a series of very favorable articles.
Mussolini took Colonel Rollin's hand
and asked him who he was, and

FOLKS NEED REMINDING - By J. N. DARLING



when he heard he exclaimed: "Ah,
Le Temps," and he made one of
those complicated Latin gestures
with head, hand and shoulders, ex-
pressive of surprise, amusement, de-
spair and scorn.
"And you?" he said to me. I gave
my name and Universal Service.
"Sit down," he commanded, and
he sat himself.
"Well," he said, "you wanted to
interview me. Why don't you
speak? I am waiting."
Colonel Rollin asked a question:
"What do you think, Mr. Presi-
dent, of the conference and of its
prospects for accomplishment?"
LAUGHS AT QUESTION.
Mussolini turned upon Le Temps
and he laughed, shrugged his shoul-
ders, lifted his book with his two
hands and seemed about to read, but
he didn't. He turned back to Le
Temps man, turned away from him
to the rest of us, and with fine
sarcasm said:
"Oh, ask me a question, somebody,
an explicit question. Not so big,
not so general." His secretary
whispered something to him and
Mussolini took the suggestion.
"Yes," he said, "and not about
foreign affairs. I will not talk about
foreign affairs."
Lord Curzon and M. Poincare were
very considerate of Benito Mussolini.
I think the reason is that Mussolini
is able to make an awful lot of
trouble. Having no respect for their
game and having in the archives of
the state department of Italy some
interesting documents, Mussolini can
say to his colleagues:
"You treat me and Italy as equals
or I will show up this whole mis-
erable business." He sits at a table
loaded with crockery of great value
and very fragile, and as he talks to
the other diners he takes hold of the
tablecloth, gives it a little jerk and
threatens to pull the whole service
off to the floor. They treat him as a
naughty boy. He wants another
plate of ice cream and, just for peace,
they say:
"Sure, Benito, have two."
We asked him about that, about

the chances of Italy between the
empires. Would not Italy have to
become an empire?
"Hah, empire!" he exclaimed.
"Nonsense! Italy is not imperialistic,
not militaristic. Italy is for peace.
We are for fair treatment of all other
countries, against all this imperial-
ism. We prefer to have things settled
in the Near East on a fair and
square basis, without war, without
loot, concession, stipulations—you
know. We will renounce if the
others will renounce. But if they
are going to divide up the good
things down there we are going to
have our share, and we will have
our share. You understand, WE
WILL!"
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
His secretary reminded him in au-
dible Italian: "But this is foreign
affairs." And Mussolini laughed
outright, heartily.
"Yes," he said, "this is foreign af-
fairs, and we were not to talk about
foreign affairs."
"And it is imperialism," I said. "It
is imperialism pacifique," he an-
swered, nodding his head and boring me
with his eyes. "Imperialism paci-
fique."
"But Italy has to have oil and
coal," I urged.
"Italy will get oil and coal," he
said quietly, positively, without tak-
ing his eyes from mine. And yet as
we stared, I thought as loudly as I
could of the understanding that Mus-
solini was going back to Rome that
night with the assurance that she
was to get what he had demanded,
be in on everything. And I muttered
in Italian, "So I hear," and he
nodded, "Yes."
Someone asked whether he expected
much opposition from his Parlia-
ment. He laughed. He did not trou-
ble to answer.
IS CENTER OF ATTENTION.
In Italy all there is to speculate
about is the character of one man—
Benito Mussolini. And since he
won't state his theories there is left
only his character. Mussolini is

GOOD FELLOWS END YULETIDE CAMPAIGN

Cheer and Happiness Brought
to Nearly 2,000 Persons
in the District.

AID GIVEN 4,000 FAMILIES

Work Uncovers Many Heart-
Breaking Cases of Illness
and Poverty in City.

The Washington Times Good Fel-
low activities came to a close yester-
day.
Good Fellows have been found
who are spreading cheer today and
who will be especially active to-
morrow. They will have brought
cheer and happiness to nearly 2,000
of the ill, destitute and aged in
all sections of the Capital before
dark on Christmas Day.
CARED FOR INDIVIDUALLY.
Four hundred families have been
assigned to the army of Good Fel-
lows, whose work will end to-
morrow.
The work of the Good Fellows
has turned up heart-breaking cases
of poverty and want in the Na-
tional Capital and has also revealed
hundreds of the most encouraging
examples of bigheartedness and
generosity.
The extent of the work which
has faced the Good Fellows can be
realized when consideration is given
the figures from the prosperous
northwest section of the city, in
which it might be assumed there
is less want than in other sections.
More than 600 destitute persons
were cared for in the northwest
section alone this year. Each one
of the 600 was individually sought
out and cared for by a member of
the Good Fellow army, the ma-
jority of them living in the north-
west section.
Tons upon tons of coal and bale
upon bale of clothing have been
distributed by the Good Fellows.
Several hundred Christmas parties
were made possible and to hun-
dreds of children came the real
happiness which is the right of
every child on Christmas Day.
RUSH AT CLOSE.
Heavy registration of Good Fel-
lows up to the closing hour of this
year's work took care of the few
families which had been left un-
assigned up to Saturday.

Among the most interesting reg-
istrations during the last day of
the work was that of the crew of
the navy mine sweeper Cormorant,
now at the Washington navy yard.
The crew of the Cormorant,
within a few hours after landing in
Washington, had learned of the
Good Fellows movement and with
characteristic bigheartedness
which has been shown in this move-
ment by the naval officers and men
on duty in Washington, promptly
decided to get a hand in the busi-
ness of spreading joy to the un-
fortunate.

Chief of Boatwain L. H. Cutting,
executive officer, acting for the
ship's commander, Lieut. G. G.
Robertson, called the Good Fellow
editor to make arrangements for
holding a party for a number of
children or to take care of a desti-
tute family. Because of the little
time remaining it was decided to
give up the Christmas party idea,
substituting by taking care of one
large family.
They requested that one of the
four remaining families in which
there were nine children each be as-
signed them. To this family will
be sent a huge box full of cloth-
ing, toys, Christmas dinners, books,
and games.
The Seamen Gunners' Athletic As-
sociation, at the navy yard, will to-
morrow hold a Christmas party,
with a big dinner, tree, toys, and
games, for fifty destitute children.
The members of the Meyer-Davis
Los Paraiso band, of seven pieces,
have offered their services for the
benefit of the Good Fellow work.

WOULD LET DOWN BARS TO REFUGEES

Johnson Resolution Waives
Monthly Quotas of
Immigrants.

TOTALS TO BE UNCHANGED

Estimates Only 7,500 Out of
2,500,000 Alien Sufferers
Would Be Affected.

By Universal Service.
Waiving of the monthly quotas
of the 3 per cent immigration re-
striction law, but retention of the
total quota limitations, are pro-
posed in a joint resolution intro-
duced in the House as a measure of
relief for Near East refugees.
The resolution was offered by
Representative Albert Johnson, of
Washington, chairman of the Im-
migration Committee, which has
been holding hearings on proposals
to let down the bars to Greeks, Ar-
menians, Syrians and others in dis-
tress as a result of being driven out
of the territory dominated by the
Turks.
AFFECTS ONLY 7,500.
Chairman Johnson explained that
while the relief proposed is small,
it is all that can be done under the
existing immigration law. The re-
solution further provides:
That the Secretary of Labor is
authorized to require that no per-
son shall be admitted under au-
thority hereof except on applica-
tion of a citizen of the United
States or a declarant for citizen-
ship who is a relative of a person
seeking admission.
The Secretary is further au-
thorized to recognize the nation-
ality of any alien under sixteen
years of age as that of either
father or mother.
Chairman Johnson said this re-
solution would mean that Greece, for
example, whose quota up to next
June 30 is exhausted, might send in
at once the entire number of immi-
grants that country is allowed dur-
ing the life of the 3 per cent law.
The act expires June 30, 1934.
While there are approximately
2,500,000 refugees in the class af-
fected, Mr. Johnson estimated that
not more than 7,500 would be ad-
mitted under the proposed legisla-
tion.

OPPOSES PRECEDENT.
The resolution also provides that
the Secretary of Labor may waive
the provision of the law requiring
that the total quotas be spread over
30 per cent monthly quotas.
Opposing the proposal, Representa-
tive Baker, Democrat, of Califor-
nia, a member of the Immigration
Committee, declared it would be
bad policy to "let down the bars,"
and if it were done, "aliens in
other countries, such as Poland and
Russia, might insist on a like privi-
lege."

Women Equal to Men
in Numbers in Japan
TOKYO, Dec. 22.—Men and wo-
men, about equal each other in num-
ber in Japan.
A census shows the total popula-
tion to be 67,665,800, of whom 28-
691,500 were male and 38,764,800
females.

U. S. Has Post Office
to Every 58 Square Miles
Every fifty-eight square miles of
area in the United States has a
postoffice, according to a compila-
tion by the Postoffice Department.
Latest reports upon the number
of postoffices of all classes show
52,000, based upon an area of 5,028,
788 square miles.

See It With Flowers
For New Year and Holiday functions.
Guide, 1212 F.—Advt.

National Chief Sends Greeting To Legionnaires

A
commander of the Ameri-
can Legion, has issued the
following Christmas greetings
to all his Legionnaires:

"Merry Christmas, my fel-
low Legionnaires. This
season of Christmas is ours to
rejoice and be glad. A cele-
bration of the greatest event
in the world's history—the
birth of the Savior of Men.
He was strong, clean, and
manly, and went about doing
good—a friend to all men.
"Following His example,
you and I must be the friend
and helper of our fellows.
While we hang up our stock-
ings and gather merrily around
our cheerful Christmas trees,
let us pause for a time to re-
member our comrades who
are suffering and those who
lead their burdens down.
"A Merry Christmas to you
from my heart."

The following officers recently
elected will be installed: The Rev.
Isaiah P. Brooks, president; the
Rev. James E. Hawkins, vice presi-
dent; the Rev. R. D. Potts, secre-
tary; the Rev. George Moon, finan-
cial secretary; the Rev. Price Rahn,
treasurer; the Rev. Stanford Thomp-
son, chaplain; the Rev. J. H. Stephenson,
advocate; the Rev. Charles
Vessell, sergeant; the Rev. Simon P. W.
Drew, corresponding secretary.

VETERANS DEMAND SALES TAX BONUS

Takoma Park Post Adopts
Resolutions Urging Adjusted
Compensation.

Adjusted compensation for veter-
ans of the world war, the payments
to be made by means of a sales
tax, was approved by Takoma Park
Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at
a meeting held Wednesday night
at the Episcopal parish hall. The
resolution adopted will be sent to
President Harding.

John E. Donker was elected com-
mander of the post. Dr. A. L.
Miller, past commander, refused
the nomination for re-election.
Other officers elected were: Cleo
L. Bedman, senior vice commander;
Harry H. Millard, junior vice com-
mander; Hollis W. Andrews, chap-
lain; Maj. William F. Fischer, quar-
termaster; Lester A. Zinn, officer
of the day, and John W. Shadle
and John L. McKenny, trustees.

Following the election, Command-
er-elect Bunker announced the ap-
pointment of Kenneth E. Harries
as post adjutant and Harvey More-
land as guard.

COLORED CHURCHES OPEN \$50,000 DRIVE

Mass Meeting For That Pur-
pose Will Be Held
Today.

A campaign to raise \$50,000 for
colored churches will be inaugurated
this afternoon at a mass meet-
ing, under the auspices of the
Ministers and Deacons' Union of the
District, in Comopolitan Baptist
Church, N. street, between Ninth
and Tenth streets northwest. The
Rev. Dr. Simon P. W. Drew, presi-
dent, and the Rev. R. D. Potts, sec-
retary, are supervising the work.

When their goal is reached, the
following churches will be free of
mortgage indebtedness: Comopoli-
tan Baptist, Dr. Simon P. W. Drew,
pastor; Mount Zion Baptist, the
Rev. Preston Fautroy, Church of
Christ Episcopalian, the Rev. S.
Thompson; East Union Baptist, the
Rev. Price Rahn; St. Marks A. M.
E. the Rev. J. D. Wilson.

The following officers recently
elected will be installed: The Rev.
Isaiah P. Brooks, president; the
Rev. James E. Hawkins, vice presi-
dent; the Rev. R. D. Potts, secre-
tary; the Rev. George Moon, finan-
cial secretary; the Rev. Price Rahn,
treasurer; the Rev. Stanford Thomp-
son, chaplain; the Rev. J. H. Stephenson,
advocate; the Rev. Charles
Vessell, sergeant; the Rev. Simon P. W.
Drew, corresponding secretary.

Graduate Glasses Fitted
McComick Medical Eyes Examined
Dr. Claude S. Semones,
Eyesight Specialist
409-410 McComick Bldg.
10th and G Sts. N. W.

VIRGINIA
BEACH
Directly on Atlantic Ocean
Has no equal as an
ALL-YEAR RESORT
Just cool enough in hot weather
and warm enough in cold weather
HOTELS AND COTTAGES
OPEN ALL THE YEAR
NEW YORK & BOSTON BY SEA
Information and Literature at
City Ticket Office, 711 15th St. N. W.
Woodward Building
NORFOLK & WASHINGTON
STEAMBOAT CO.

W. B. Moses & Sons
Furniture Established 1861 Linens
Carpets Eleventh and F Sts. Upholstery

Milton R. Ney
8th and Pa. Ave. N.W.

Today
We wish you one and all a
Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year

And every day in every way, we wish
to know each other better and better

**To Our
Many Friends**

May Christmas Bring
Unbounded Happiness
Into Your Homes—and
Into the Homes of
Those You Love

W. B. Moses & Sons
Furniture Established 1861 Linens
Carpets Eleventh and F Sts. Upholstery

To All:

We Extend Our
Sincere Wish for
a Very Merry
Christmas and a
Happy New Year

Dr. Lehman
Wishes
All of His
Patients
A Merry
Christmas
And
A Happy
New Year
Dr. Lehman
Dentist,
307 7th St. N. W.
Opposite Saks.